

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 01067 291336Z

44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-02 H-02

/055 W

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R 291207Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9803

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PASS USDOC, EXIM, OPIC, AID/W

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EAID, SU

SUBJ: NEW MININDUSTRY SEEKS AMERICAN ASSISTANCE

BEGIN SUMMARY. COMMENTS MININD SULIMAN, AS WELL AS MEDIA ORCHESTRATION CURRENT AMERICAN VISITS, SERVES UNDERLINE REGIME'S MESSAGE THAT GOS ACTIVELY INTERESTED IN MAXIMIZING COLLABORATION WITH AMERICAN FIRMS AND, HOPEFULLY, USG. BELIEVE WE SHOULD DO ALL WE CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE THIS TREND, EVEN WHILE DIRECT BILATERAL AID UNAVAILABLE. END SUMMARY.

1. I WAS ASKED CALL ON MININD AND MINING BADR AL-DIN SULIMAN APRIL 28, OSTENSIBLY TO FULFILL MY LONGSTANDING REQUEST PAY COURTESY CALL ON HIM AFTER HIS APPOINTMENT LAST JANUARY. NFN COURSE SOMEWHAT MEANDERING HOUR-LONG DISCUSSION, SULIMAN SAID REGIME HAD HOUND IT NECESSARY RE-THINK ITS APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, WHY WAS NEW KHARTOUM TANNERY RUNNING AT 60 PER CENT CAPACITY BECAUSE BEST HIDES AND SKINS ARE STILL BEING EXPORTED. HIS SUBSEQUENT COMMENTS, BEING REPORTED BY MEMCON, MAY BE SUM-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 KHARTO 01067 291336Z

MARIZED IN FOUR MAJOR POINTS: (A) NEW REPUBLICAN DECREE

PUBLICIZED APRIL 27 REORGANIZING GOS DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING IS DESIGNED RATIONALIZE AND
INTEGRATE OVERALL PLANNING PROCESS UNDER ENTIRE CABINET
WHICH WILL BE SERVED BY CABINET COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY NEW
MINFIN BIHEIRI; (B) THERE SHOULD BE SHIFT FROM IMPORT
SUBSTITUTION APPROACH TO ONE WHICH WOULD FULLY UTILIZE
AVAILABLE SUDANESE RAW MATERIALS AND BY-PRODUCTS
(E.G., MOLASSES, BAGASSE, PAPER AND PAPERBOARD);
(C) HE DESIRED AMERICAN COMPANIES TO BE AWARE OF THERE
OPPORTUNITIES IN SUDAN AND PROMISED PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH
PRIORITY LIST OF INDUSTRIAL AREAS ON WHICH HIS MINISTRY NOW
HOPING FOCUS; AND (D) IT WOULD BE NECESSARY ESTABLISH
TECHNICAL UNIT TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THIS INDUSTRIALI-
ZATION PROCESS AND HE HOPED US COULD ASSIST BY PROVIDING
KNOW-HOW, DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLETS AND TECHNICAL ADVICE
AS TO HOW DEVELOPMENT MIGHT BEST PROCEED.

2. IN REPLY, I SAID EMBASSY ALWAYS READY BE OF ASSISTANCE
IN INTERESTING AMERICAN FIRMS IN SUDANESE PROJECT POSSIBI-
LITIES. WE WOULD CALL NEW PRIORITY LIST, WHEN RECEIVED, TO
ATTENTION DEPT OF COMMERCE WHICH HAD NUMBER MECHANISMS
FOR ASSURING THAT AMERICAN INDUSTRY LEARNS PROMPTLY
OF THEM. EXIM BANK REMAINED READY TO CONSIDER RENEWALS
AND MODERATE-SIZED NEW TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING SALES TO
SUDAN UNDER FCIA AND COMMERCIAL BANK GUARANTEE
PROGRAM (STATE 083408). AS TO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, I
CALLED SULIMAN'S ATTENTION TO EXISTENCE INTERNATIONAL
EXECUTIVE SERVICE CROPS (IESC), DESCRIBED ITS FUNCTIONS
AND SAID I WOULD SEND HIM IESC PAMPHLET DESCRIBING ITS
OPERATIONS.

3. SULIMAN SAID HE WELCOMED THIS BUT THEN INDICATED,
SOMEWHAT INDIRECTLY, THAT WHAT HE REALLY WOULD LIKE TO
HAVE WOULD BE SEVERAL QUALIFIED EXPERTS FINANCED BY USG.
RECALLING UNFORTUNATE HISTORY OUR RELATIONS STEMMING FROM
SUDANESE DECISION LAST JUNE TO RELEASE MURDERERS, I TEN
SAID THAT "HOLD" CONTINUED TO EXIST ON BILATERAL AID TO SUDAN.
I COULD NOT PREDICT IF, OR WHEN, THIS MIGHT BE LIFTED BUT
CAUTIONED SULIMAN THAT, VIEW GENERAL PROBLEMS RECENT AID
APPROPRIATIONS IT WOULD IN ANY CASE BE UNREALISTIC EXPECT
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PAGE 03 KHARTO 01067 291336Z

ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THIS SOURCE IN NEAR FUTURE.
SULIMAN SEEMED DISAPPOINTED BUT SAID HE WOULD TRY TO FIND
OTHER MEANS FOR ASSURING SUDAN GETS BEST POSSIBLE ADVICE
ON HOW TO DEVELOP ITS EXISTING RESOURCES. I EMPHASIZED
EMBASSY FULLY PREPARED DO WHAT IT COULD TO HELP WITHIN
EXISTING POLICY GUIDELINES AND SULIMAN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION.

4. COMMENT: WHILE TIMING CALL PROBABLY RELATED TO

CONCURRENT VISITS HERE CHASE MANHATTAN TEAM TO SEE
ABOUT OPENING RESIDENT OFFICE AND AALC LABOR TEAM (BOTH OF
WHICH, TOGETHER WITH MY CALL, PROMINENTLY FEATURED BY ALL
LOCAL MEDIA APRIL 29), FACT IS THAT REGIME DOES APPEAR TO
HAVE BEEN REORDERING ITS PRIORITIES. WE BELIEVE
THIS REFLECTS EFFORT BY NEW MINFIN ASSERT REQUISITE
CONTROL OVER BUDGETARY PROCESS IN ORDER ASSURE THAT MULTI-
FARIOUS DEVELOPMENTAL EXPENDITURES (A) CAN BE FUNDED;
AND (B) WILL MAKE MOST EFFICIENT CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL
SUDANESE DEVELOPMENT. IT ALSO SEEMS CLEAR, ON BASIS SULIMAN'S
COMMENTS AND MY RECENT TALKS WITH ACTING FONMIN (KHARTOUM 965)
AND MINFIN, THAT GOS NOW MORE ACTIVELY SOLICITING
COLLABORATION WITH AMERICAN FIRMS AND, HOPEFULLY, USG.
DOUBT WE CAN ASSUME REGIME WILL WISH REMAIN IN THIS POSTURE
INDEFINITELY UNLESS THERE IS SOME SORT OF AMERICAN RESPONSE.
ACCORDINGLY, AS FIRST STEP, I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING
SPECIAL SHIPMENT BOOKLETS ON POPULAR HOUSING AND OTHER
INDUSTRIES SUITABLE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY WHICH I BELIEVE
OBTAINABLE THROUGH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.
ALSO WILL WELCOME SOME CONCRETE GUIDANCE ALONG LINES RE-
QUESTED KHARTOUM 965.
BREWER

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TAGS: ECON, EAID, SU, US
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